

## BOERS ARE IMPROVING POSITION.

While British Are Shelling Boers, the Latter Doggedly Continue to Entrench.

## LADYSMITH SHELLING BOERS

On Umbulwana Mountain—Burning Shells Are Plainly Visible at Chieveley.

**CHIEVELEY CAMP, Natal, Monday, Dec. 26.**—Although the two armies were in sight of each other, with the temperature 103 degrees in the shade, the British to-day enjoyed characteristic Christmas cheer. Greenfell and Kirkwood, of the South African light horse, left here yesterday to inspect the patrols along the eastern hills. Their horses returned at night alone.

Colonel Donald, of the Royal Fusiliers, has had his collar bone broken by being thrown from his horse while on outpost duty.

**CHIEVELEY CAMP, Natal, Tuesday, Dec. 26.**—The naval guns being shelling the Boer position at 5 o'clock this morning, using lyddite. The shelling continued about two hours.

Ever since the engagement at Colenso the enemy have been energetically improving their entrenchments. They can be seen galloping freely from hill to hill.

Ladysmith also had a busy morning to-day shelling the Boer positions on Umbulwana mountain. The burning shells were plainly visible at Chieveley.

## STILL STRENGTHENING.

Boer Works—Campaign at a Standstill.

**LONDON, Dec. 28, 4:30 a. m.**—Winston Churchill's new arrival at Chieveley Camp is perhaps responsible for some over-coloring of the gravity of the situation, but all to-day's news conveys the impression that Buller may be intending another attack upon the Boer position.

Certainly the Boers are not inactive. At both Modder river and the Tugela they are said to be strengthening their forces and extending defense works which, in both cases are seemingly almost impregnable.

As showing the difficulty of obtaining accurate information, a correspondent of the Daily News at Cape Town, under date of December 21, announces that "General Buller is coming to Cape Town, to meet Sir Charles Warren and then both will go to Modder river."

As five battalions of General Warren's fifth division are said to have gone to Natal, his arrival at Pietermaritzburg seemed natural.

Dispatches from Chieveley indicate that General Buller's forces will be mobilized at Frere before attempting another attack. Doubtless he will be glad to retrieve the Colenso reverse before the arrival of Lord Roberts, yet he is hardly likely to attempt another frontal attack. It is more likely that he is preparing to strike should the Boers make any offensive movement.

Mr. Churchill's reference to Ladysmith may imply that the situation of the garrison is more desperate than had been supposed. The Boers continue fortifying the hills commanding the town. General White, however, telegraphs that all was well in Ladysmith on December 26.

Competent military critics in London regard the campaign as at a complete dead-lock for the present, owing to the dispersal of the British forces and the lack of adequate transport. They believe it will be many weeks before Lord Roberts is able to reorganize and to make an effective move.

The Boer trench work is so good that it enables the enemy to hold a long line with very few men and to travel great distances under perfect cover, so as to rapidly reinforce any point attacked.

A dispatch to the Times from Mafeking, dated Monday, December 11, by way of Mochudi, Tuesday, December 19, says that Lady Sarah Wilson, aunt of the Duke of Marlborough, who was captured by the Boers, while acting as correspondent for a London paper, has arrived there, having been exchanged for Viljoen, a notorious horse thief and convict.

## COMPLIMENT RETURNED.

Boers Uncover in Presence of British Prisoners.

**LONDON, Dec. 27.**—The Daily Chronicle publishes the following from Cape Town:

Herr Schlegel, an agent of the New York Equitable Assurance Society, who has arrived here from Pretoria, says the Boers possess immense stores of food imported by speculative capitalists under a belief that mining would be allowed during the war.

"He says also that there were thousands of spectators at the Pretoria railway station when the British who were captured at Nicholson's Nek were detained. The people were ordered by the Boer commandant to bare their heads and they did so. The British, astonished, returned the salute."

## BOER RECRUITING AGENTS

Actively at Work Near Police Headquarters.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—The work of enlisting men in this city to take the Boer side in the war is in charge of the agents who operate in a saloon near police headquarters.

The leaders in the movement is Gustav Simon, a Boer, recently arrived

from the Transvaal. Associated with him is a German, Henry Scharff, who has lived many years among the Boers and who reached New York a week ago from Pretoria. Simon owned in Johannesburg several hotels and saloons; these were closed up when the war began, and being incapable of active service in the field, he came here in the interests of his country. Scharff, his companion in this work, was among the first to come out from the Yonkon country with news of the Klondike gold fields, and he has mining interests there and in the Transvaal.

Since his return to the Transvaal from Alaska he has been in the confidence of Boer leaders, and he has been sent here on this special mission.

A number of people, chiefly young men, have gone to the Transvaal. Some two hundred left a week ago, and sixty went just before Christmas.

Ever since the outbreak of the Transvaal war the British consulate in this city has received letters from persons eager to enlist in the British army.

"I don't think it is any exaggeration to say that we have received 5,000 letters from persons who want to enlist," said the British vice consul to-day, "and besides these, a great many apply to us in person for help or advice in the matter. We are prevented by United States statutes from enlisting them and we have to send them away. The only way they can get into the army is to go to England and enlist on their own responsibility. How many of them do this we have no way of knowing. I think, however, that a great many of them do enlist."

## CIVIL MARRIAGES

May Now be Performed in the Philippines.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.**—Gen. Otis has issued a decree authorizing the celebration of civil marriages in the Philippines. He cabled Secretary Root to that effect to-day, and the secretary promptly approved the action. Heretofore all marriage were celebrated by the Catholic church, so that Protestants and non-Christians were prohibited from marrying. The decree does not interfere with the Catholics, who may be married according to their own rites, but extends the privileges of civil marriage to those who desire it, just as it is practiced in the United States.

## Alaskan Question Was in the Way.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.**—Secretary Long stated in his recent annual report that negotiations were pending between the United States and Great Britain to overcome the treaty inhibition against building warships on the great lakes. It has transpired that the negotiations to which the secretary of the navy referred were those carried on by the joint high commission which dealt with Canadian affairs. The American members of that commission put forward a plan of permitting the lake ship yards to build warships, with the understanding that the vessels would not be fitted up and remain on the lakes for naval service. This was accepted by the British-Canadian officials with the additional provision that the armor should not be placed on the warships until after they had reached salt water. This provision would have been incorporated in the final arrangement, had not the commission failed of an agreement because of the Alaskan boundary trouble.

## German Naval Kids on a Cruise.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.**—The German warships Nixe and Von Moltke, used as training ships for naval cadets, have arrived at Havana, after a cruise through West Indian waters about ten days ago that caused consternation among the officials and people there, as it was feared there would be a repetition of the Leders incident, and another demand on Hayti, backed up by German naval guns. It appears, however, that the cruise of the Nixe and Von Moltke was arranged a year ago, and the call at Haitian ports was entirely devoid of significance, as the commanders of the ships have no instructions outside of those pertaining to the regular cruise. On January 6 they will proceed along the Cuban and Porto Rican coasts.

## Shippers Want to Enjoin Railroads.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.**—The inter-state commerce commission decided to-day to comply with the request of the shippers of freight to transmit to the attorney general of the United States a transcript of the evidence taken before the commission last week on the increase of the classification of freight by the official classification commission. The shippers in their petition urged that the testimony taken showed a violation of the Sherman anti-trust act. Their desire is that the attorney general shall take action by injunction or otherwise to restrain the railroads from putting the classification into effect on January 1.

## Don't Want Danish West Indies.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 27.**—In official German quarters it is stated that Germany has never contemplated the acquisition of the Danish West Indian islands, and that, consequently, there has been no occasion for advice from the German embassy here to the home government against the acquisition on the ground that it would be regarded in this country as an unfriendly act.

## Mable, Middle Fork & Addison R. R.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

**CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 27.**—The Mable, Middle Fork & Addison Railroad Company has been incorporated here to build a railroad from Mable in Randolph county, to Addison, in Webster county. The company is composed of G. A. Mable, William Mable, and Jay Fleming, of Mable, and several others. The capital stock is \$350,000.

## FILIPINOS COMPLETELY ROUTED.

Colonel Lockett's Men Pursued the Fleeing Rebels Into the Hills.

## THREE HOURS HEAVY FIRING

Resulted in Complete Defeat of a Large Force of Insurgents.

**MANILA, Dec. 27, 10:15 p. m.**—Col. Lockett, with a force of 2,500, including artillery, attacked this morning a strong force of insurgents entrenched in the mountains near Montalban, about five miles northeast of San Mateo. The enemy were completely routed, the Americans pursuing them through the hills, amid which they fled in every direction.

Four Americans were wounded. The Filipino loss was large, resulting from a heavy infantry and artillery fire for three hours into the trenches. It is supposed that the insurgents were those who were driven out of San Mateo on the day General Lawton was killed. They numbered about a thousand. Those lines of insurgent trenches covered the steep trail through the hills and likewise the valley below, along which the Americans passed. The main attacking party consisted of the Forty-sixth volunteer infantry, a troop of Cavalry artillery, Colonel Lockett commanding in person. The rest of the command operated from remote points in an endeavor to carry out Col. Lockett's plan of throwing his lines around the enemy and thus cutting off retreat.

The nature of the mountainous country made it impracticable to execute this movement successfully. After the insurgents began to run there was a vain attempt to use artillery.

## UNITED MINE WORKERS

In Executive Session to Formulate Demands.

**INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 27.**—An executive session of the United Mine Workers of America was held at the Occidental Hotel in this city to-day. President John Mitchell, secretary W. C. Pearce, and a number of district presidents were present. President Mitchell said the object of the meeting was to arrange for the national convention, to be held in Indianapolis, January 15, and the joint conference of miners and coal operators, which meets here January 22. One of the delegates said: "Our meeting is to accomplish what must be left to the national convention—namely, the fixing of wage scales and formulating other demands that will be made at the convention. A score of us can do more in secret session than several hundred delegates in open meeting. We will present our formulated plans to the convention, which will mainly adopt them. Nothing at this time can be made public. While every district president is not present, several of them have sent substitutes. A general advance of wages will be demanded, but the advances will be governed largely by conditions in certain mining regions."

## Big Miners' Strike Threatened.

**ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 27.**—Representatives of 35,000 miners in the bituminous coal district are meeting to-day at various points to consider the feasibility of a strike for a general increase of 30 per cent in wages. At the coal towns, Lilly, Panxautawney, Barnesboro and Clearfield, the sessions of the wage workers are secret, though their intentions have been expressed publicly enough. The miners say unless the operators consent to the demand, a general strike is certain. The operators to-day informed the men that they regard their demands as preposterous. If the miners are in earnest, the strike will be declared January 1.

The operators say they believe that the conservative element in the United Mine Workers' organization will be able to prevent a strike. It is said several high officials of the union are using their best efforts to keep the men at work, urging that a strike now would precipitate an industrial slump.

## BLUFFED THE CONSTABLE.

But One of the Posse Shot, Wes. Nottingham Dead.

**CHARLESTON, W. Va., Dec. 27.**—Constable Elsie Rogers went to the home of Wes. Nottingham, on Middle Creek, in Clay county, yesterday, to arrest him on a charge of arson. Nottingham presented two revolvers, and the constable beat a retreat. He then summoned a posse, which went to Nottingham's house. Nottingham again started to draw his pistol, but an officer forestalled him and he fell dead, with a rifle ball in his body.

## Pasteboard to Advance.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—At a meeting of the board of directors of the National Board and Paper Company, held to-day, it was decided that the price of pasteboard would be advanced \$2.50 per ton. More than a score of representative manufacturers of pasteboard were present at the meeting.

## Successful American Competition.

**GLASGOW, Dec. 27.**—The corporation of this city has accepted the bid of a New York company for electric feeders for the Glasgow tramway at \$151,000, or \$10,000 below the lowest British offer.

## DANFORTH TALKS

Convention Will Probably Be Held at Milwaukee or Kansas City—Silver Issue Practically Abandoned—Bryan to Be the Presidential Candidate.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—Elliott Danforth, chairman of the Democratic state committee, returned to New York to-day, after a trip through the south, during which he talked with Senator James K. Jones, chairman of the national committee, and most of the chairmen of the southern Democratic state committees. This afternoon Mr. Danforth gave an Evening Post reporter the result of his observations and some information about next year's national campaign.

"I found," he said, "that the sentiment was generally in favor of selecting some western city other than Chicago as the place for holding the national convention. The members of the national committee have a strong feeling against Chicago on account of the treatment they have received from the newspapers there since they established headquarters in the city in 1894. It looks as if either Milwaukee or Kansas City will secure the national convention. Milwaukee seems to be in the lead. It has an auditorium with a seating capacity of 15,000 and the citizens have offered to entertain the delegates handsomely."

"Also discovered that there is a general feeling in favor of establishing the headquarters of the national committee next year in Washington. Senator Jones favored Washington in 1896, but gave way to Mr. Bryan, who was in favor of Chicago. In my trip through the south I observed one thing which will be considered of particular interest in New York, namely, that none of the leaders seemed disposed to insist on free silver as the main issue of the campaign next year. They did not say that they had abandoned the 16 to 1 idea, but they acknowledged that the situation had changed since 1896, and that the dominant issues next year were trusts and imperialism. That is to say, they are unwilling to repudiate the Chicago platform, but they see that new issues of far-reaching importance have come up lately and that their choice should be reconsidered."

"The Democratic national convention," Mr. Danforth added, "will be held a short time after the Republican convention, according to custom. No matter when it is held, there is no doubt about the head of the ticket. Everywhere I heard only Mr. Bryan's name mentioned. They are not talking about candidates for vice president yet. An eastern man will probably be selected."

## SENATOR QUAY

Very Non-Committal to an Interviewer.

**PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 27.**—Col. M. S. Quay, former United States senator, arrived in the city this morning from Washington. He left for Beaver this afternoon, where he will spend a few days. His object in coming here at this time, while he did not state it, is thought to be to meet some of his political friends of western Pennsylvania in conference.

The ex-senator was not inclined to talk very much about his chances for getting a new lease upon the United States senatorship from this state, but from the tenor of his remarks it was inferred that he had not fully made up his mind whether or not he would be a candidate for re-election. When seen after his arrival he was asked:

"Senator, what are your prospects for being seated by the United States senate?"

"I don't know; I expect to be seated, but you can't tell what the senate will do."

"Will you be a candidate for re-election, whether the senate seats you or not?"

"I don't know; that is further along. I don't know whether I shall be a candidate if I am seated or if I am not seated. Those stories which were sent out from Washington about the situation came from the Wanamaker insurgent bureau. They have headquarters in Washington. Those reports are very similar to the news about the Boer war in Africa. It all reads alike anyhow."

## Quay Case to Be Disposed of Early.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.**—The senate committee on privileges and elections will take up the contest over the seat in the senate claimed by Senator Quay under the appointment of the governor of Pennsylvania, soon after the close of the holiday recess. Members of the committee predict early action by the committee, and hope to have it disposed of in the senate during the month of January.

## MOODY'S GRAVE HEAPED

With Flowers—Moody Memorial Endowment Started.

**EAST NORTHFIELD, Mass., Dec. 27.**—The mound of earth which marks the grave of the late Dwight L. Moody tonight is heaped over with flowers, the tribute of many scores of loving friends who have come to East Northfield to visit Round Top.

The grave was filled in last night and the capstones were put in place to-day. Many of the friends of the family who were at the service yesterday left to-day, but first they walked to Round Top.

An appeal to the world to provide funds for the continuation of the work begun to-day and for twenty years carried on by Dwight L. Moody, was issued to-day by the trustees of the Northfield Seminary. This plan will be the only action taken by the trustees until their meeting a month hence. The plea is entitled "Moody Memorial Endowment," and begins: "I have been ambitious, not to lay up wealth, but to leave work for you to do, were almost the last words of D. L. Moody to his children."

## LOUD TALK OF INVASION OF CANADA.

By Clan-na-Gael and the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

## CLAIM TO BE WELL ARMED

And to Have Members in the Militia and Every Army Post.

**NEW YORK, Dec. 27.**—Relative to the attitude of the Irish revolutionary societies toward the government of Great Britain at the present juncture of affairs, the Evening Post to-day quotes an officer of the Clan-na-Gael as saying:

"England can only be made to feel by physical force, and we're now going to give her some Boer treatment. We did intend going out and sinking that first expedition from Canada to South Africa, but thought it better to wait a little. We can mobilize our men without much difficulty for an attack on Canada and we are fairly well armed—as well as the United States troops in the Spanish war. We have lots of Springfield rifles, and are handy with the bayonet."

"No decision has been arrived at yet. Everything will depend on the immediate future. We have either regiments or companies all over the United States, and are fairly well drilled, and a great many of our men are in the militia. The Ancient Order of Hibernians has really nothing to do with this. It numbers about 250,000, and a majority of its members belong to our organization. All its officers do, and so, of course, it will act with us. We have lots of men in the regular army—camps or clubs in every post—and even if they were sent against us to stop us on the border they would either march across with us or give us blank cartridges."

"If it is decided to attack Canada, we shall do all in our power to keep matters so secret as not to embarrass the government until we are actually on the border. The French population in Canada would be with us, and there are numbers of our own countrymen ready to welcome us. Canada would be an easy mark. We would have the Canadian loyalists on the run in a week."

## PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 27.

There is a general movement among the Irish citizens here to aid the Boers in their war with England. A call was to-day sent out for a special assembly on every member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of which there are 25,000 in this city. A return of \$25,000 is expected which will help to swell the general fund of \$1,000,000, which Irish organizations throughout the country seek to raise.

## A SENSIBLE VIEW.

Only a Bluff to Keep Canadians at Home.

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.**—P. J. McManus, a prominent Irishman, said to-day that preparations are being made for a public meeting at the Academy of Music. Final arrangement will be completed at a meeting of the county board of the A. O. U. H. next Friday.

In speaking of the alleged Fenian plot to raid Canada, Mr. McManus said:

"The proposed Fenian raid, if there is any such thing contemplated, is against the rules of international law. The loyalty of the Irish to this country leads them to regard the announcement as merely a bluff to keep the Canadians at home."

It is expected, he says, that the meeting at the Academy of Music will result in a \$50,000 fund to fit out a hospital relief ship.

## Canadians Aroused.

**CALUMET, Mich., Dec. 27.**—British-Americans in Calumet are much wrought up over reported arrangements for a Fenian raid on Canada, and a secret meeting is reported to have been held, at which over 1,000 Englishmen, who still love their mother country, decided to volunteer their services in case of a Fenian raid.

## Teachers in Session at Chicago.

**CHICAGO, Dec. 27.**—The first business sessions of the associations forming the Commercial Teachers' Association, now in annual convention here, were held to-day. The Public-school Writing and Drawing-school Teachers' Association held a joint meeting with the Western Penman's Association, and listened to papers by Cyrus W. Field, Akron, O.; A. W. Pierce, Chicago; D. S. Hill, Evansville, Ind.; W. J. Kinley, New York, and J. B. McCorkle, Green Bay, Wis.

At the meeting of the Business Teachers' association papers were read by C. B. Potter, Jr., Peoria, Ill.; C. P. Seaton, Columbus, Ohio; J. W. Marr, Moline, Ill.; M. H. Davis, Toledo, Ohio, and E. W. Spencer, Milwaukee.

The session of the National Short-hand Teachers' Association was largely attended, and an interesting program was carried out. C. M. Miller, New York; Miss Rebecca Stratton, of Cleveland; F. W. Mosher, and John R. Greig, of Chicago, read papers. The meeting of the Commercial Teachers' Federation was held this afternoon, the other bodies adjourning to attend. James H. Eckels, ex-comptroller of the currency, delivered the principal address of the session. W. H. Shaw, of Toronto, read a paper on "The Value of Professional Co-operation."

## BRAZNEILL MINE

Gives Up Another Victim—Still More Supposed to Be Under the Fall of Slate—Inquest May Not Be Held Before Wednesday.

**BROWNVILLE, Pa., Dec. 27.**—Another victim of the Brazneill mine explosion was found to-day. The body was terribly decomposed, and when brought to the morgue the stench was so bad that people were almost driven from the building. Some Hungarians who accompanied the remains, claimed that the body was that of Andrew Zamicky, who has been unaccounted for since the day of the disaster. Friends of the man claimed the body and it was taken to California, Pa., for interment. The body was found under a heavy fall of roofing. The inspectors, Louittit, Hlick and James Conner, said from the location, they had evidently walked over the body a great many times, and had not discovered it, for they had not stepped on it. He was found lying face downward, and the terribly charred remains had the same appearance as the debris around. It is now supposed that there is another digger in this same room, and that probably he is under the big fall of slate. There was a large fall of slate and later, a much smaller one, and the body of Andrew Zamicky was under the small fall of slate. It will take a large amount of work to lift the big slate fall. Inspector Conner stated to-day that the finding of the body of Zamicky simply goes to show that they do not know how many people are yet down in the death pit, or where they will find the bodies.

If the inspectors are satisfied that all the bodies have been recovered by to-morrow evening, the inquest will begin in Uniontown on Friday morning, but now, it is thought the chances are against that. If the mine has not been thoroughly explored by that time, the inquest will not be held until next Wednesday.

## PANAMA CANAL

Company Incorporated With a Capital of \$30,000,000.

**TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 27.**—The Panama Canal Company, of America, with an authorized capital of \$30,000,000, was incorporated here late this afternoon. The object of the company as shown by the articles of incorporation is to acquire by purchase the ship canal of the Campagnie du Canal de Panama and the railway across the Isthmus of Panama; also to construct, equip and operate said canal and railway and the various enterprises connected therewith.

The articles also empower the company to enter into arrangements with any government that may seem conducive to the company's object.

## LAWTON'S REMAINS

And Those of Logan and Armstrong to Be Sent on the Thomas.

**WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.**—Quartermaster General Ludington received a cable message to-day from Colonel Miller, of the quartermaster general's department at Manila, saying that arrangements have been made to send home the remains of Major General Lawton, Major John A. Logan, Jr., and Major Armstrong, on the transport Thomas, which will leave on the 30th instant for San Francisco.

## RUSSIA AND FRANCE

Conniving Against England in the Orient.

**VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 27.**—Mail advices received from the Orient to-day, state that Russia and France are conniving together in encroaching on Chinese territory and against England, and that Japan is buying immense quantities of rice. It is believed that war will break out in the spring.

## Scene in the French Senate.

**PARIS, Dec. 27.**—The public prosecutor concluded his closing speech this evening by the senate sitting as a high court, in the conspiracy cases. He asked that an especially severe sentence be imposed on M. Jules Guerin, the president of the anti-Semite league. The president of the court, M. Fallieres, then read the decision of the high court, liberating those prisoners whose prosecution was abandoned yesterday, owing to want of evidence. The prisoners in question then left the court, one of their number, M. Caffly, shouting "Vive L'Republique!" and "A bas Juifs!"

The court adjourned until to-morrow.

## Pennsylvania Republicans.

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.**—It is probable that the Republican state convention will be held at Harrisburg, on Wednesday, April 25. Chairman Reeder, of the state committee, has sent a communication to the members of that committee, suggesting that date, and it is believed no objection will be made. At this convention candidates will be nominated for auditor general and two congressmen-at-large. Eight delegates at large to the Republican national convention will also be named, as well as thirty-two presidential electors, one for each of the congressmen and one for each of the United States senators.

## Masonic Year 5,899.

**PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 27.**—To-day marked the beginning of the new Masonic year A. L. 5899—and the officers of the Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, elected at the quarterly communication December 6, were installed in their respective stations in ancient and solemn form at the Masonic Temple, in this city.

## Weather Forecast.

For Ohio, fair in western, snow in eastern portion Thursday; Friday fair; fresh westerly winds.

For West Virginia, snow Thursday; Friday fair; northwesterly winds.

For Western Pennsylvania, snow Thursday; Friday fair, except probably snow near the lakes; fresh westerly winds.

Local Temperatures.

The temperature yesterday, as observed by C. Schenck, druggist, corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows: